	April		
	1998	1999	2000
Delhi	23.81	21.23	19.34
Mumbai	22.99	21.55	19.96
Chennai	24.99	22.73	21.14
Calcutta	25.58	23.70	23.04
Bangalore	26.32	25.00	23.70

Rent paid by Central Excise Department for Mumbai Office

249. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Excise Department pays more rent than Citi Bank located in the same Piramal building in Mumbai; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to enquire into the deal and fix responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) However, as the rent reasonability certificate issued by the C.P.W.D. during the last revision of rent (later withdrawn) has been reported to be based on factually incorrect information, the matter is being enquired into by the C.B.I. The outcome of the enquiry is awaited. Further action will be taken after the findings of the enquiry are known.

Decline in Rate of Savings

†250. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that savings have been declining continuously for the past few years in the country;

(b) if not, what was the rate of these savings during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) whether it is also a fact that annual growth rate of 8-9% is not possible to be achieved due to decline in rate of savings; and

(d) if so, the reasons for this continuous decline in the rate of savings?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (d) As per the latest available data with the Central Statistical Organisation, saving rate measured in terms of gross domestic savings as a proportion of gross domestic product at current prices was 23.3 per cent in 1996-97, 24.7 per cent in 1997-98 and 22.3 per cent in 1998-99 (quick estimates). The decline in the saving rate in 1998-99 is attributed to a decline in the saving rate of both the public sector and the private sector. A higher saving rate is necessary to achieve annual growth rate of 8-9 per cent. For promoting savings it is imperative to improve the parameters which have a bearing on savings behaviour which include rate of growth in the economy, level of fiscal deficit, tax policies, inflation, efficiency of the banking system and the capital market and confidence in the economy.

Capital benefits earned by FIIs

†251. SHRI DINANATH MISHRA:
DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual details of the total capital benefits earned by the foreign institutional investors since they have been allowed to trade in the Indian stock market;

(b) what is the year-wise amount of tax paid by them on such type of benefits;

(c) the total capital benefits earned by the foreign institutional investors through the Mauritius route by going out of the tax ambit; and

(d) the total amount of capital benefits earned by the foreign institutional investors through the Sisily route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (d) The relevant information is not maintained.

Companies enjoying capital gains tax benefit under DTAA

252. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of companies which were enjoying the capital gains tax benefit under Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement had their origin somewhere else and had only a front company in Mauritius; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.